United Nations E/CN.5/2018/L.5*

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
5 February 2018

Original: English

Commission for Social Development
Fifty-sixth session
29 January–7 February 2018
Agenda item 2
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Commission, Mr. Bruno Rios (Mexico), on the basis of informal consultations

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2005/11 of 21 July 2005, 2006/18 of 26 July 2006, 2008/19 of 24 July 2008, 2010/10 of 22 July 2010, 2012/7 of 26 July 2012, 2014/3 of 12 June 2014 and 2016/6 of 2 June 2016 on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 50/161 of 22 December 1995 on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, the outcome of the World Summit[1] and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the Assembly,[2]

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and stressing the importance of the implementation of this ambitious new Agenda,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013, in which the Assembly stipulated that the Council should invite, inter alia, its subsidiary bodies to contribute, as appropriate, to its work in keeping with the agreed annual theme and that it should ensure the harmonization and coordination of the agendas and work programmes of the functional commissions by promoting a clearer division of labour among them and providing clearer policy guidance to them,

* Reissued for technical reasons on 8 February 2018.
[1] A/CONF.166/9.
[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

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Recognizing the commitment, and emphasizing the need, to strengthen the Economic and Social Council, within its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations as a principal organ of the Organization, in the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, and recognizing the key role of the Council in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling its resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996, by which it decided that the Commission for Social Development, in fulfilling its mandate, should assist the Economic and Social Council in monitoring, reviewing and appraising the progress achieved and problems encountered in the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and should advise the Council thereon,

Recognizing the importance of the role of non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors, in advancing the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action and, in this respect, the work of the Commission,

Mindful of the review by the General Assembly of the arrangements contained in its resolution 68/1 and the annex thereto, to be made during its seventy-second session, and the ongoing process of discussions on the reform of the United Nations, in particular the process of repositioning the United Nations development system,[4]

Recognizing that the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action, the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[5] and the World Programme of Action for Youth,[6] the objectives of the International Year of the Family and their follow-up processes and the outcome document "The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond",[7] as well as the fulfilment of the obligations of States parties under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[8] and other relevant key instruments, are mutually reinforcing to the advancement of social development for all,

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council needs to consider and take steps towards the rationalization of its agenda, with a view to eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity in the consideration and negotiation of similar or related issues,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, in promoting the integrated treatment of social development issues in the United Nations system, shall review, on a periodic basis, issues related to the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[3] in a manner consistent with the functions and contributions of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and shall advise the Council thereon;

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[3] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No.E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II

[4] See A/72/124-E/2018/3.

[5] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[6] General Assembly resolutions 50/81, annex, and 62/126, annex.

[7] A/68/95.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

2. *Affirms* that the Commission continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[2] and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Commission will contribute to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[9] within its existing mandate, by supporting the thematic reviews of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on progress on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them, while engaging all relevant stakeholders and feeding into and being aligned with the cycle of the high-level political forum, according to the organizational arrangements established by the General Assembly and the Council;

4. *Decides* that the Commission will consider one priority theme at each session on the basis of the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and its linkages to the social dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, proposing an action-oriented resolution with recommendations to the Economic and Social Council in order to contribute to its work;

5. *Invites* the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, the relevant specialized agencies, regional commissions, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the international financial institutions to present their relevant activities and reports, which may contribute to the advancement of the priority theme, including by participating in interactive dialogues with Member States and relevant stakeholders;

6. *Encourages* the Bureau of the Commission to continue to propose interactive dialogues, such as high-level events and ministerial and expert workshops that engage Member States and relevant stakeholders, so as to encourage dialogue and enhance the impact of its work, including by addressing the implementation of, follow-up to and review of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. *Decides* that, with regard to the review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups, the Commission shall review the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[10] and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[11] by proceeding to the review of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly "The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond";[7]

8. *Requests* the Commission to adopt a multi-year programme of work to allow for predictability and adequate time for preparation: in selecting its priority theme, the Commission should take into consideration, in addition to the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcomes of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, the programme of work of the Council, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, so as to build

[9] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

[10] A/37/351/Add.1 and A/37/351/Add.1/Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

[11] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

synergies and contribute to the work of the Council system and the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

9. *Decides* that the priority theme for the 2019 session, which shall allow the Commission to contribute to the work of the Council, will be "Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies";

10. *Also decides* to continue to consider the biennialization of the resolutions of the Commission, with a view to strengthening the resolution on the priority theme, eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity in the consideration and negotiation of similar or related issues between the Council and the General Assembly;

11. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors, to participate, to the maximum extent possible, in line with Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, in the work of the Commission and in the monitoring and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

12. *Decides* that the Commission shall keep its methods of work under review, including as related to the timing and number of working days of its sessions, at its fifty-seventh session in order to adjust, as appropriate, to the work of the Council, in line with the outcome of the General Assembly review of the strengthening of the Council and the process of repositioning the United Nations Development system.